THE VICTORIAN BING CROSBY SOCIETY -- - 11th August, 1994

FRIENDS & MEMBERS:

In our July/August '94 Newsletter (page 2) under the heading "PLEASE CONSIDER" we outlined a suggestion & opportunity under the guidance of Danhy Keating, for members & friends to enjoy a social function at the Muso's Club, at 65 Wellington Street, Windsor on SATURDAY, November 12th.

It was stressed in the Newsletter that we need an attendance of 100 people, and in all confidence of your support, we have confirmed the booking with Danny, and therefore we are now asking you all to press on with your efforts to seek the support of your families & friends to make up a party, large or small, and make this nighta success. Mostly our social contact between ourselves is restricted to a hurried few minutes during our interval break at our film nights, and we see this as a great opportunity to at least share together, what should be a lovely evening.

For those members who usually are unable to attend the film nights, this might present a chance for you & yours to join with other members of the VBCS, eat, talk, listen & dance to the band, and say hello to us all, each to each other.

In view of the committment that we have made to the Musican's Club, we are asking members to give a positive response to this evening, and to signify their acceptance of the idea by filling in the attached form hereunder, and pay 'up-front' as the saying goes, returning the form & money at the October 10th film night.

If this is not possible, members can return the form & cheque/or money to Bob Neate, at 22 Pakenham St, Blackburn, 3130; if you would like to talk about it anytime, feel free to ring me on 877.1983, or Ron Were on 318-3302, we'll be happy to share our enthusiasm for the evening with you.

This just might be the chance you have been waiting for, to take a loved one out for the evening with the family and friends to celebrate a birthday, wedding anniversay or some other special event, but otherwise why not get a group together and come just for the fun of the evening. At Fifteen dollars per person, it is a steal.

NAME:..... NUMBER COMING.....

MONEY/OR CHEQUE ENCLOSED Dollars:.....

Secretary: R.J.Neate
22 Pakenham St.,
BLACKBURN. 3130

Treasurer: K.Dorman,
32 Raleigh St.,
BLACKBURN, 3130

NEWSLETTER - JULY/AUGUST 1994

NEXT FILM NIGHT - AUGUST 15

In conjunction with the International Frank Sinatra Society

PROGRAMME: "ROBIN & THE SEVEN HOODS" - "MEET DANNY WILSON" - plus a special "VINTAGE" CARTOON.

"ROBIN AND THE SEVEN HOODS" Released 1964
Starring Bing with Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jnr., Peter Falk, Barbara Rush, and very briefly, Edward G.Robinson.
Produced in Technicolor and Panavision, this was a romp for all concerned - a spoof of the typical Hollywood gangster films of the thirties, with the Robin Hood legend transferred from "Merrie England" to Chicago in its wild and wicked days of the Prohibition "roaring 20's."

Watch for Philip Crosby in a bit part as a "hood." He has just one line when he offers a chair and invites his father, playing "Allen A.Dale," to "sit down Pops."

Songs by Jimmy van Heusen and Sammy Cahn, include:-
"My Kind of Town" - F.S.
"Style" - B.C./F.S./D.M.
"Mr.Booze" - B.C. plus all
"Don't Be a Do-Badder" - B.C.
"All for One" - P.Falk
"Any Man Who Loves his Mother" - D.M.
"Bang Bang" -S.D.Jnr.

"MEET DANNY WILSON" 1952
Although originally made as a "B" grade support, this film rates with most Sinatra fans as one of his top three movies.
Frank stars as a saloon-room singer, with ALEX NICOL as his pianist buddy, and SHELLEY WINTERS as the girl they both fancy. RAYMOND BURR is also featured as the "heavy."
Among the top songs are "A Good Man is Hard to Find," and old favourites, "I've Got a Crush on You," "That Old Black Magic," "When You're Smiling," "All of Me," "How Deep is the Ocean," and "She's Funny that Way."

PLEASE NOTE THAT WITH A FULL PROGRAMME, START TIME IS 7.15 P.M.

Usual venue: GRIERSON THEATRE, using the back entrance off Treasury Place, City. Ample free parking in the Grierson's private car park, also off Treasury Place, right at the theatre door. (N.B. No parking in Treasury Place itself before 7.30 p.m. - but further normal parking available in Lansdowne St., St.Andrews Place etc.)

The Society's thanks have been extended to Danny Keating, for the most enjoyable musical interlude at our last meeting. If you missed it, you can hear the tape at the August film night.

PLEASE CONSIDER! .. Danny Keating has also offered the opportunity for club members and friends to enjoy an excellent social function at a price which is not only very reasonable, but also makes allowance for a small percentage of each admission fee to be allocated to club funds.
The date is Saturday night, November 12th - and the venue, the famous "Muso's Club" - the Musicians' Club of Victoria, 65 Wellington St., Windsor.
Cost is $15.00 per head, which includes dancing to a (not surprising at a musicians' club) "LIVE" band - and dinner, with the menu including Scotch Broth Soup, Roast Beef, Crumbed Fish & Lemon Wedge, Apple Sponge with cream and ice cream, Dinner Mints, and Coffee and Tea. (Drinks from bar - not included).

The punchline is that an attendance of 100 is preferred (or close to it) - so before booking, the committee needs to know if there would be a positive response. Would you please give the suggestion some thought - talk with friends etc. - and be ready to indicate at the August film night whether you would attend the function. Or if you won't be at the Grierson on that night, contact Bob Neate prior to August 15. (Or if you think such a function would be better held in early 1995 - again, please offer your opinion).

An outstanding new record release is the MCA Records CD - "BING - HIS LEGENDARY YEARS 1931-1957" (MCAD4-10887). This features 100 numbers taken from the years Bing recorded for the Brunswick label (1931-34) and the Decca label (1934-57). Included are some of his best Brunswicks (released on the Columbia label in Australia) - in fact some of the very best from his entire career, showcasing changing vocal styles, from early "dynamics," to latter-day "relaxed." For added value the set also offers several previously-unreleased recordings, plus the famous "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams" "goof" track in its first commercial release. You may already have some of the selections, but the sound quality is very much superior here, and detailed notes are a further ""plus."

Committee member Ted Parnassus marked his birthday by ringing Radio 693 to ask for a Crosby disc. In the ensuing on-air talk with Johnny Young (who was most receptive) Ted gave the Society some valuable publicity. Hopefully it will inspire further interest. And perhaps others will follow Ted's example in letting 693 (and 3MP) know that there are Crosby fans "out there," and that the Crosby content in station programming could well be expanded.

Bob Neate is anxious to hear from anyone with information on the Kraft/Philco/Chesterfield radio shows. He'd like to know how many of each were made and if anyone has cassette or reel-to-reel tapes (and if so, details of the particular shows etc.) Many were sold from the Keith Hyde and Tommy Northrop collections - perhaps the buyers could help Bob.

MEMBERSHIP FEES for 1994-95 are due in August - $6.00 Single, $8.00 a couple. It's an unfortunate fact that these are vital to help defray the cost of producing and mailing the Newsletter. To enable membership lists to be up-dated, and to ensure that Newsletters are correctly addressed, we'd be grateful if you would complete the application form and return it, together with your cheque, to Bob Neate, 22 Pakenham St., Blackburn, Vic.3130. Or if you are attending the August 15 Film Night, bring the completed form along, and pay membership monies, together with admission fee, at the door.

Thank you for your continuing support of the VBCS, whether you are able to support the Film Nights or whether you maintain your membership "from a distance."

Looking into our early days, we feel it worthwhile to quote from a document produced by Bob Machliss, titled "All About the Victorian Bing Crosby Society."

"The success of this initial meeting (Aug.1977) demonstrated to all present that there was a definite need for an organisation to be formed, and so, on September 15th.(1977) a formal Society was constituted with the basic objectives of:-

(i) Increasing public awareness and understanding of Bing Crosby's contribution to popular music

(ii) Providing opportunities for both collectors and admirers to meet at regular intervals

(iii) Inviting Bing Crosby to become an honorary life member of the Society. (Sadly Bing died before this could happen)

(There are other quotable items in this document, and if any member would like a copy of it, please let Bob Neate know so that he can arrange for you to get one with the next Newsletter)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: (Mr./Mrs.(or both)/Miss .....
(Christian & Surnames please)

ADDRESS: .....

..... POST CODE:

TELEPHONE NO: .....

FEE(S) ENCLOSED: $.....